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Company Invested in Training Employees and Job Creation

Thai Summit America is an Automotive Class A Stamping and Assembly facility providing Automotive body parts to Ford, Chrysler, GM, Freightliner, Volvo, and Mercedes to name a few. The automotive business is on an upturn and Thai Summit's business is increasing, requiring them to hire more workers in the production and skilled trades areas. The market is very lean in both arenas and it has been difficult to find qualified candidates. The company has always had the policy to promote from within. With the Skilled Trades Training Fund Grant (STTF) available to the company, it was the perfect opportunity for them to hire current contract associates into their production workforce.

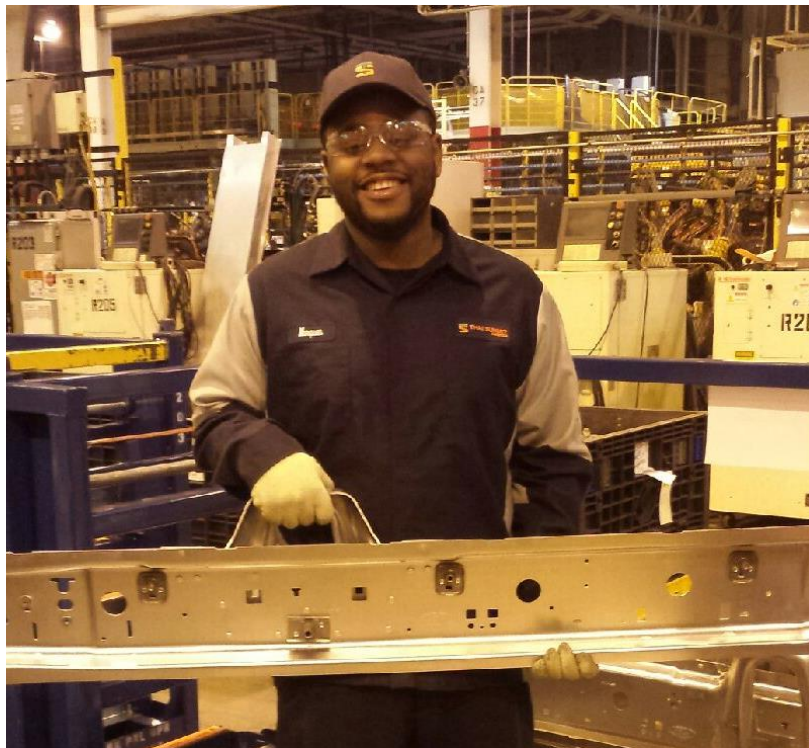


Photo Courtesy of: Matt Brown, Assembly Facilitator

Marquan Goodman is one of those associates that has been a great asset to the company. Marquan graduated from Hamadr High School in Flint, MI in 2011. He worked at a local hospital as a transporter before joining the U.S. Army. That career path didn't work out for Marquan and he worked various factory jobs through temporary agencies before signing on with Action Associates and being placed with Thai Summit in June of 2014. Marquan showed promise by being very flexible and willing to work in both the Press and Assembly departments and was a quick learner. His supervisor recommended him to be hired on as a full-time Thai Summit employee and Marquan was hired on December 15, 2014. He started at \$14.06 per hour and is expected to progress to the top rate of \$18.04 per hour.

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Because of the STTF grant Thai Summit is able to invest valuable training hours for the on the job training. Marquan was also able to take the TS16949 training class to learn about the quality standards and system under which Thai Summit operates. Marquan plans to take advantage of the company's Education Reimbursement program that reimburses students 80% of their tuition and book fees if they achieve a grade C or above in courses related to the company's business.

Because Thai Summit was able to hire Marquan, he was able to get his own apartment and support his 3-year old daughter. He loves working for Thai Summit and says it is a good environment and he feels comfortable there. He states that he has learned a lot about how to conduct business in the 7 months he has worked at the company. Marquan is a good role model to the other new associates with whom he works.

Thai Summit currently has 504 employees, of which, 43 have been hired since November 17th as a result of the Skilled Trades Training Fund Grant.

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Agency: Livingston County Michigan Works!

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Participant: Marquan Goodman / Employer: Thai Summit America, Toni Jackson, 517-545-3819

The Michigan Works! Livingston Service Center is a local one-stop service center in Howell that offers workforce development services to job seekers and employers. Michigan Works! Service Centers are funded by the Workforce Development Agency, State of Michigan. Michigan Works! Livingston Service Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.